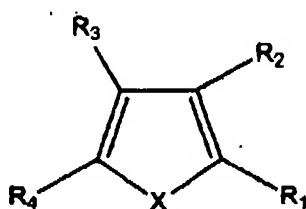


Claims

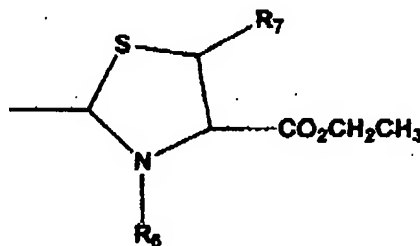
Claims 1-18 (canceled)

19 (currently amended). A method for treating sickle cell disease in a patient in need thereof, comprising the step of administering to said patient a compound of the formula:



where

R₁ is CHO or a thiazolidine group of the following formula:

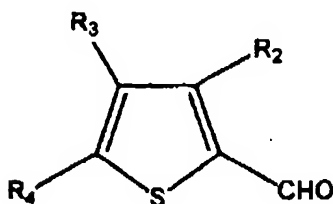


R₂, R₃ and R₄ are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of H, OH, alkyl, halogen and hydroxy-alkyl; R₆ and R₇ = H;
X = O or S;

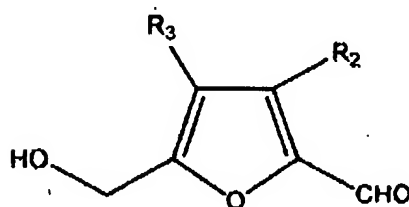
and wherein said compound is administered in sufficient amount to said patient to ameliorate sickle cell disease, with the proviso that R₂, R₃ and R₄ cannot be H or alkyl at the same time when R₁ is CHO and X is O.

20 (canceled).

21(currently amended). The method of claim 19, wherein R₂ and R₃ = H; R₄ is H, alkyl or hydroxyalkyl; and the general formula of the compound is:

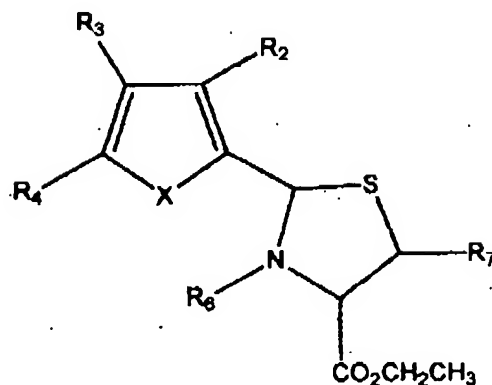


22 (currently amended). The method of claim 19, wherein said compound is of the formula:



where R₂ and R₃ =H.

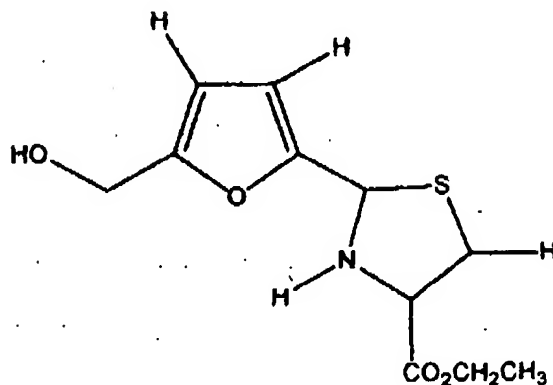
23 (currently amended). The method of claim 19, wherein said compound is of the formula:



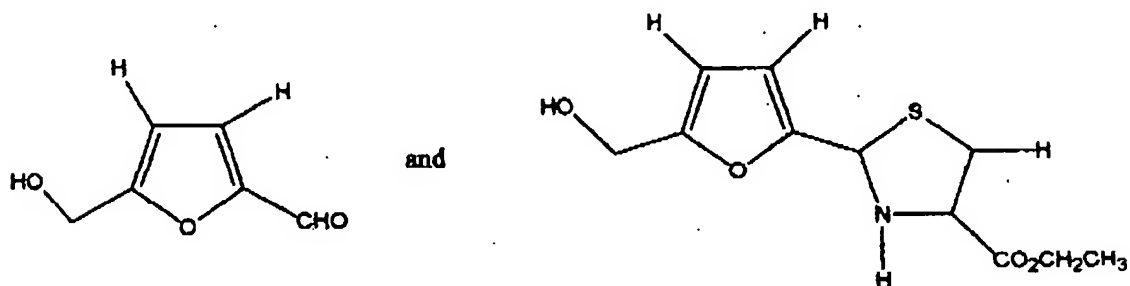
where

R₂, R₃ = H; R₄ is H, alkyl or hydroxy-alkyl; R₆ and R₇ = H; and X = O

24 (currently amended). The method of claim 23, wherein said compound is of the formula:



25 (currently amended). The method of claim 19, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of a compound of the formula:



26(canceled).

27(canceled).

28(canceled).

29(canceled).